

narrower duplicates of claims 8 and 21. Claim 9 has been amended to recite proper Markush language. No new matter has been added.

Turning now to the Official Action, applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102(a), 102(b), 103, and 112, second paragraph. The only outstanding rejection of the claims is the rejection of claims 1, 4 and 6-21 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as purportedly indefinite. This rejection, to the extent that it applies to the claims as amended, is respectfully traversed.

Applicants maintain that the metes and bounds of the claims as originally filed, and as amended on October 3, 1994 would be clear to one of ordinary skill in the art. However, in an effort to expedite prosecution, claims 1, 4, 6-8, 10, and 21 have been amended to delete the term "essentially," substituting language suggested by the Examiner on page 3, lines 6-12 of the most recent Official Action. New claims 22 and 23 are narrower duplicates of claims 8 and 21, which recite the specific nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No. 4. Claim 9 has been amended to recite proper Markush language. In light of these amendments, the claims are believed to fully meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

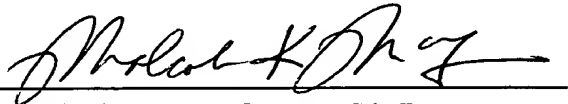
From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

Application Serial No. 08/070,455
Attorney's Docket No. 003300-293

In the event that there are any questions concerning this amendment, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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